THE LEVITE

THE
MAGAZINE
OF THE
JOHN
WATSON
CLUB

SPRING NUMBER 1946

One Copy Gratis to Members
Other Copies, 6d. each

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VOL. 7 NO. 2

The Levite

EDITOR—A. DOUGLAS MURRAY.

SPRING NUMBER 1946 VOL. VII. No. 2

THE JOHN WATSON CLUB.

(*Old Boys' Club, formed April*, 1899. *Girls' Association in October*, 1903.)
Reconstituted, 26th June, 1937.

OFFICE-BEARERS, 1946.

Hon. President—Sir E. M. WEDDERBURN, D.K.S., D.Sc.

Hon. Vice-President—Miss W. L. GELLATLY.

President—D. M. THOMSON.

Vice-Presidents—
Miss JEAN D. BRUCE, M.B.E. G. D. S. FORSYTH, M.A.

Secretary—A. D. MURRAY, "Stranraer," Elm Avenue, Lenzie, Dumbartonshire.

Treasurer—J. D. W. SPENCE, C.A., B.Com.
30 St. John's Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh 12.

Deputy-Secretary and Treasurer—Miss J. RHIND, M.A.
14 Montpelier Park, Edinburgh.

Editor of Levite—A. D. MURRAY.

Members of Council—
Dr. W. A. ALEXANDER, W. R. MENZIES, A. BOOTH, Miss D. DRYSDALE, Miss P. WINTER, Miss N. THOMAS.

Director nominated by the Club—
Professor W. B. STEVENSON, D.Litt., D.D.

Consultative Committee—Representing the Former Pupils—D. M. THOMSON, Professor STEVENSON and Miss W. L. GELLATLY.

F.P. Foundationers' Fund—Trustees—The Deputy Keeper, the Club President, and the Headmaster.

F.P. Centenary Recreation Fund—Trustees—The Club President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Headmaster, the Housemistress, and the School Treasurer.

SUPPLEMENTARY LEVITE ROLL OF SERVICE.

1922 Trotter, J. R.—N. Zealand Army—P.O. Box 68, Tauranga, New Zealand
1924 White, I. F.—R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm—144 Calderwood Road, Burnside, Glasgow.
1924 Shaw, D. S.—R.N.V.R.—65b Union Street, Greenock.
1938 Grant, J. F. A.—R.A.F.V.R.—68 Argyle Street, Portobello, Edinburgh. *Killed on Active Service.*
1939 Hart, T.—R.N.V.R.—94 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh.
1941 McKerron, D.—R.A.—180 Monument Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
1941 Thomson, P. L. C.—R.A.C.—c/o Mrs Sands, Louvain, Kinross.
1942 Marshall, D. H.—Royal Signals—53 Brechin Road, Forfar.
1942 Wilkie, A.—General Service Corps—67 Ravelston Dykes, Edinburgh.
1942 Winter, I. J.—R.A.—27 Rutland Street, Edinburgh.
Addison, Miss A.—Canadian W.A.C.—10 Balvie Avenue, Drumchapel, Glasgow.

DEATHS ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

1932 Morrison, Fl.-Lt., N. L.—R.A.F.V.R.
1938 Grant, Sgt.-Pilot, J. F. A.—R.A.F.V.R.
McLeod, L-Cpl., Sheila—A.T.S.

AWARDS.

1929 Hamilton, Wing-Commander A. F.—R.A.F. *D.S.O.*
1932 Grant, Acting Wing-Commander J. B.—R.A.F. *D.S.O.*
McLeod, L-Cpl. Sheila—A.T.S. *Mentioned in Despatches.*

THE LATE FT.-LT. NOEL LINDSAY MORRISON.

It is with sorrow that we have to record the loss, while on active air operations, of Noel Lindsay Morrison.

After a popular stay at John Watson's, Noel passed on to Edinburgh Royal High School, from which he left to join the staff of the Union Assurance Company. But the life there did not appeal and so after a few years he made a change by joining the Edinburgh City Police.

At the outbreak of war freedom of choice was not his own, and Noel unwillingly stayed in the Police Force until 1941, when he was granted release on condition that he qualified for air crew. Almost

at once he found himself in the United States where, on gaining his wings, he was immediately Commissioned. Now, much against his wishes, he was retained for instructing duties and put in a year's work, which was highly commented on, before returning to this country.

Keen to get into action Noel Morrison chose to become a bomber pilot rather than a night fighter, since bombers offered the shorter training course, and after three months in this country went out to Palestine to complete his course. He joined his operational squadron on the Italian Adriatic Coast in the spring of 1944, and forthwith put in some busy months. On the night of 10th/11th October, the aircraft which he captained failed to return, and to this day no trace has been found of him and his crew, or the aircraft. Shortly before his death Noel had been promoted Flight Lieutenant.

The war has now come and gone, and victory has been achieved, but not without its very sad reflections. So in the years ahead when thoughts return to years of war, let us not forget Noel Morrison, and other school-day friends, who gave so much more than we, that freedom should endure.

To Mrs Morrison, and her family, we offer our sincere sympathy.

J.S.

THE LATE SERGT.-PILOT JOSEPH F. A. GRANT.

All those who were at John Watson's between 1933 and 1938, and many others associated with the School at that time, will learn with great regret of the death of Joseph Grant—" Joe " as he was known to all of us. Two years have passed since he was killed in a flying accident in Wales in February 1944, but his personality stands out very clearly in my mind.

After leaving J.W. in 1938, he was at Daniel Stewart's College until 1941, when he joined the R.A.F.V.R. Most of his training was done in Canada, where he was awarded his " Wings " in June 1943. Of his achievements at School, much could be said. At Stewart's, for example, he gained the Rutherford Prize for the best out-going Foundationer. Although outwardly frail in physique, he was very hardy. On the rugby pitch in " The Park," I can see him still, racing down the pitch on the wing with great speed, and on Sports Day he often won where courage and endurance were called for.

It is difficult to sum up his fine character without being superficial. Joe had a quiet and gentle manner, under cover of which lay a great dependability and an inexhaustible fund of quiet humour. Qualities of initiative and leadership, though always unobtrusive, were well developed in him and I believe he would have gone far in life. We had many adventures in the " Kiddern "——the " Ultima Thule " of our lives at J.W. At these times it seemed that his

interest in this natural environment was boundless, and how happy he was on these occasions, with such seemingly endless fields of exploration !

One of Joe's main interests at School was Geography : he would sit in " First Seccy " and draw maps for the pleasure of it. He would point out the peninsula of Malaya (where he was born) and had clear ideas about the countries he wished to visit. Even in those days Joe had plans for the future which was to be cut short so prematurely : but his streak for adventure carried him far round the world of his atlas, long before he was able to go abroad himself.

With his hands, too, he was very neat, spending hours over woodwork in the " Long Playroom " to produce beautifully-finished models.

In April 1935, Joe's twin brother, Harry, died very suddenly, and, while that sad event left a deep impression on all of us, on looking back, one feels that it must have wounded Joe's sensitive nature very severely. Harry was a delightful boy ; so like Joe in many ways and a born companion to Joe's heart. They were as one together. I feel sure that Joe never fully recovered from that shock when he was so young. To me, now, and, I am sure, to many others who knew him, there comes that same feeling, which Joe experienced in very vivid and intimate terms at School, of having lost an irreplaceable friend.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to his mother, whose loss is certainly the greatest of all.

J.O.T.

THE LATE L.-CPL. SHEILA MacLEOD, A.T.S.

Many Levites will have learned with great sorrow that Sheila MacLeod is missing, presumed killed whilst in the Service of her Country.

At John Watson's Sheila MacLeod was loved by all who came in contact with her. Although shy, she was sincere and sympathetic, and had a truly generous nature. She was good at sports and conscientious in the class-room. Fond of singing, Sheila was delighted when she was one of the four chosen to sing in the Dean Church Choir on Sundays. She left John Watson's in 1933 and two years later suffered the loss of her mother, who died after a long and painful illness.

Those who, like myself, were privileged to have and enjoy her company on many occasions will remember the good comradeship of these hours. She never changed and I, and all who loved her, will find that memories are cold comfort.

In 1941 while employed by the Century Insurance Company in Edinburgh she joined the A.T.S., and was later posted to Northern Ireland where she obtained the rank of Lance-Corporal. Although essentially a home-loving person she later thought it her duty to volunteer for service abroad and she was sent to Italy where she

remained during the next eighteen months. Her last leave—a home one—fell in September 1945, and on the night of 4th-5th October she left this country on her way back to Italy by air.

Her plane—a Lancaster which left Peterborough at midnight, contacted its radio base at Foggia in Italy, under normal procedure,

whilst flying over the Mediterranean and thereafter disappeared without leaving any traces. In addition to its crew of six it was carrying seventeen A.T.S. girls and two Army nursing sisters.

For her work with her unit in Italy Sheila MacLeod was " mentioned in despatches," but fate has robbed her of the natural satisfaction of knowing that her devotion to duty was appreciated and officially recognised.

The deep sympathy of all Levites goes out to her sister, Thora, in her great loss.

C.M.A.S.

THE SCHOOL'S RETURN TO EDINBURGH.

There is now a reasonable prospect of the John Watson's being evacuated by the military this summer and it is hoped that the building can be put in a state which will allow of the School being re-established in its old house next autumn. This does not imply that all the work or desirable restoration can be accomplished before re-occupation, and it is likely that some internal changes in the building and in the equipment will be regarded as improvements and will be retained.

The array of huts, of wood and brick, which now crowd the boys' play-ground, will mostly have to be removed but the new asphalted drive, starting near the gardener's lodge, is likely to remain. Among the war casualties that some will notice is the old arbour to the left of the original avenue. It has probably outlived its appropriateness. But meantime one can only speculate regarding the permanent differences that the war-time use of the School will have made to its fabric and its grounds.

W.B.S.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

In keeping with the gradual, if slow, return to normal customs, the Annual Meeting, which this year was held at the Gartshore Hall, 116 George Street, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of Saturday the 9th of February, dropped its " austerity " mantle of the past few years.

Prior to the Business Meeting tea was served and partaken with evident enjoyment, tongues wagged freely and the happy atmosphere which prevailed strengthened the pleasure of meeting old friends. Of the business carried through little will here be mentioned since particulars of the Club's Office-Bearers and the Treasurer's and Council's Reports are printed elsewhere within these pages, but it must be said that it is an achievement of no small measure that the Club, through the loyalty of its members, young and old, has been able to grow in numbers and exercise its sound influence in the cause of John Watson's during a period when so many other similar clubs have virtually ceased to function. If the Club can do this in time of war we can look forward to the coming years with confidence.

The business over those present passed into the hands of Miss Joan Rhind, Miss Pamela Winter and Mr George Forsyth, who together initiated us into the mysteries of " Flipping the Kipper, etc" Miss Bruce's team, by virtue of its seeming ability or maybe good luck (some declared it was good " cooking ") finished easy winners. In " Musical Circles " George Forsyth showed himself to be an adept at being in the right spot at the right time which together with the introduction of the flavour of a Rugby Scrum (with its inevitable " dirty work ") brought him out on top.

An all too enjoyable afternoon came to a close with the singing of " Auld Lang Syne," but this time there was a difference—we knew for certain that when we " met again some ither day " it would, once again be within the walls of the real John Watson's at Belford Road. Indeed a day to look forward to !

THE COUNCIL'S 44th ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting its 44th Annual Report in the 46th year of the Club's existence, the Council can say that war-time conditions have not weakened the Club's resources, and can look forward with

confidence to the years ahead. It is hoped that a large number of the members at present serving with the Forces will be demobilised shortly, and that the Club will consequently be able to resume some of its social activities in the coming year.

The various Club Accounts are on a sound footing, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that during the past year there was a considerable improvement in the payment of subscriptions, a total of approximately £100 having been received, of which approximately £54 consisted of settlement of arrears. It is gratifying to find that some of the members when paying their subscriptions, have in addition sent donations, amounting to nearly £16 for general Club purposes. The response of the women members through Miss Rhind to last year's appeal was particularly gratifying, subscriptions totalling £41 being received as against the previous year's £10.

It is hoped that members will continue to assist the Council in its work by prompt settlement of their subscriptions due on 1st December of each year. The Council also reminds members that donations to the Former Pupils' Foundationers' Fund, which was instituted by Colonel Donaldson are still as necessary as in the past to enable the objects of the Fund to be fulfilled. The balance on hand in this Fund (apart from promised legacies of £5200) amounted, at 30th November, 1945, including capital and revenue, to £6559.

12 Old Boys and 10 Old Girls have been admitted to full Club membership and the number of members on the Club Roll now stands at 368. Of this number the Club welcomes the admission of several non-foundationers to its ranks. It is with great regret that the Council has to record the deaths on Active Service of Fl.-Lt. N. L. Morrison (1932) and L.-Cpl. Sheila MacLeod. In addition the Council regrets to report that Lieut. S. Scroggie (1932) has suffered severe wounds whilst in action.

The medals and prizes presented by the Club on Vacation Day were awarded as follows :—

Dux Girl and Dux of School Silver Medal	Elizabeth Arnott.
Dux Boy Silver Medal	Robert Botcherby.
Rowe Memorial Medal for Religious Knowledge	Elizabeth Arnott.
Langhorne Memorial Medal for Latin	Elizabeth Arnott.
Donaldson Prize for Writing	Elizabeth Arnott.
School Sports Championship Prize	Leonard Drever.

The Council again desires to express its cordial thanks to Mr Rowe for his kind and whole-hearted co-operation in all matters concerning the Club.

By order of the Council,

A. D. MURRAY, Honorary Secretary.

THE CLUB CASH STATEMENTS (Abbreviated)
for Year Ending 30th November, 1945.

CLUB ACCOUNTS.

Investments held are as follows :—

£52	0	0	4% Funding Loan, 1960/90.
212	9	1	3½% War Stock.
160	0	0	3% Defence Bonds.
£424	9	1	

CURRENT ACCOUNT.

Balance at 30th November, 1944	£56	6	8	Cost of *The Levite*	£32	3	7
Subs. received for Year—Boys	58	17	9	Bursaries	15	0	0
Girls	40	14	6	Medals and Prizes	13	4	0
Donations	15	19	0	Postage, Stationery, and Bank Charges	12	8	11
Interest on Investments and Savings Account	15	3	1	Balance at 30th November 1944—			
				On Current Account	68	11	2
				In Savings Bank	38	13	4
				On Hand	7	0	0
	£187	1	0		£187	1	0

F.P. DEVELOPMENT FUND.

Balance at 30th November, 1944	£370	1	0	Balance on Deposit Receipt dated 22nd August, 1945	£375	11	9
Interest on Savings Account and Deposit Receipts uplifted ...	5	10	9				
	£375	11	9		£375	11	9

F.P. TRADITION FUND.

Balance at 30th November, 1944	£199	10	6	Paid to John Watson Found. Fund	£199	10	6
Donations Received	45	15	0	Fees to School Treasurer for Recovering Tax	1	8	4
Recovery of Tax	28	18	0	Balance in Bank	73	4	8
	£274	3	6		£274	3	6

Note.—The above Balance, £73 4s. 8d., has since 30/11/45 been paid over to the Foundationers' Fund.

F.P. FOUNDATIONERS' FUND.

Investments held on Capital Account at 30/11/45 totalled £6308 3s. 4d., including £4500 Debenture Stock transferred to the fund by Colonel Donaldson. In addition, legacies promised now total approximately £5200.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Balance at 30th November, 1944	£211	1	11	Balance in Bank and Invested ...	£251	2	5
Revenue received in year net ...	40	0	6				
	£251	2	5		£251	2	5

F.P. CENTENARY RECREATION FUND.

Investments on Capital Account, £728.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Balance at 30th November, 1944	£56	17	4	Balance in Bank and Invested at 30th November, 1945 ...	£85	11	10
Dividend and Interest, including Tax Recovered	28	13	11				
	£85	11	10		£85	11	10

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Wynd,
Gayle, Hawes,
Yorks.

Sir,

Do you think a page or so in each number, perhaps in smaller type, might be set apart for the publication of portions of autobiography? It is saddening to reflect that, after seeing them last in 1890, I should have learnt nothing more of J. A. S. Wilson and Ernest Walker until the last number of *The Levite* brought me word that they had both died. Then what is told us of them in Club Talk (p. 22) is so little. I have often felt I should so much like to know what befell, say, Angus Mackenzie (1888), or Daisy Scott and her sister, or Moir and Lamb and Macfarlane of my year. Of Donald Boyd I saw a good deal in India, and so I know much of what befell him; with Charles Pennell I have exchanged letters since the publication of Denison Ross's autobiography, his reading of which it was that moved him to write to me; I also, inevitably, have been in touch with D. M. Thomson. But of all the others, particulars of whose fortunes would so interest me, I know no more, perhaps, than that this man or that is still alive, his name having appeared in a subscription list, or that his profession entitles him to be called "Professor" or "Dr."

I don't mean that we should encourage one another to blow our own trumpets, but to put down on paper those salient facts, or a few of them, that we might communicate by word of mouth, were we met by chance somewhere, and were asked what had happened to us since we grew up. What our professions had been; what our hobbies, and so on.

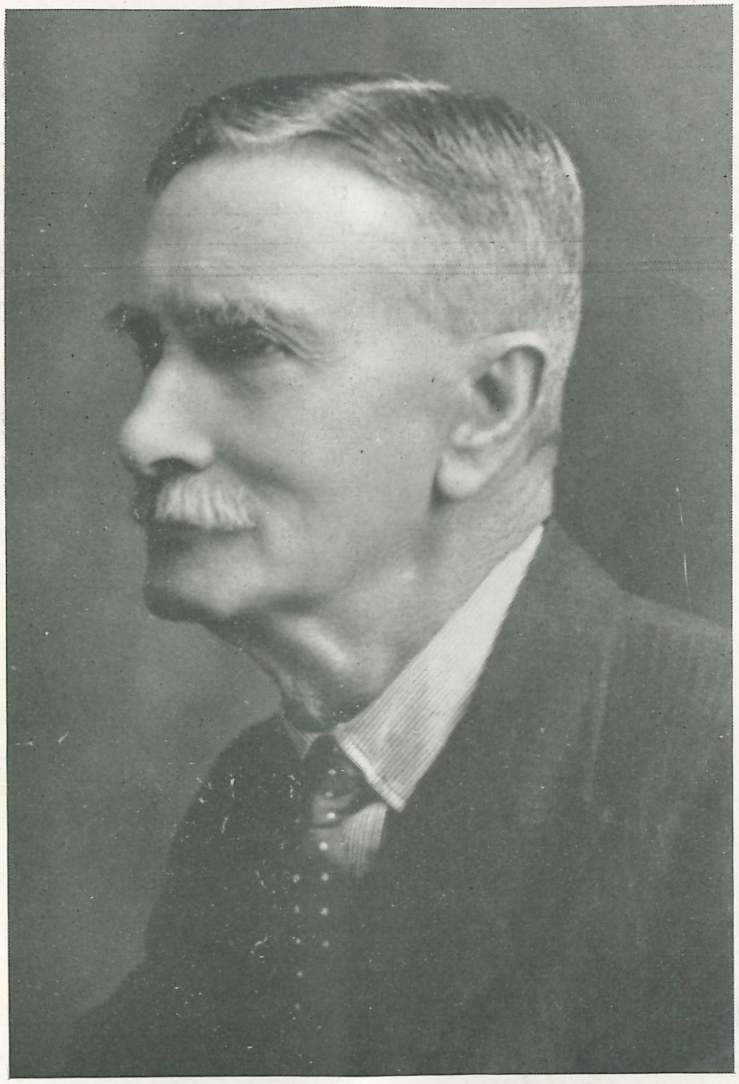
Yours sincerely,
J. A. CHAPMAN.

(The Editor commends this idea to Levites. Through "Club Personalities"—biographical sketches of Levites, the first of a series of which appears in this issue—it is hoped to bring forward the careers of some of John Watson's more noted Former Pupils).

Club Personalities

No. 1.

LIEUT.-COLONEL J. DONALDSON, D.S.O.



It is not given to every man to have a life so full of adventure and to live to the ripe age of 82 years as has Colonel Donaldson. He has jotted down some of his experiences for the benefit of his grandchildren, and we feel privileged in being allowed to tell some of his stories in these pages.

Colonel Donaldson was born on 28th February, 1863, and of all the past anniversaries of that event, probably the most memorable to him was the 37th, being the day of the relief of Ladysmith, for he was in that besieged town at the time. His father died at the early age of 29 years on the eve of taking up an important banking appointment in Australia. He left a widow and four children, who came to Edinburgh and James resided with his grandfather, Kenneth McLeay, R.S.A. and Queen Victoria's Limner for Scotland. James has told how much his mother was relieved of anxiety when John Watson's became responsible for his education in 1870, and for his brother Kenneth's in 1871. James was a clever, high-spirited youth, and was often in trouble through pranks and misbehaviour. " In the First Section there was some controversy about the proper pronunciation in Latin of the letter ' c.' Should it be soft or hard ? I was asked in class by the Headmaster, who happened to be named Rowe, to give an example of both renderings. I gave ' Cicero the Orator,' and with the hard rendering I gave it as ' Kick row the rater,' for which I got socks. On the whole I had a happy time at school and feel most grateful for the care I received and for the sound educational grounding which I got there." His " big boy " was Robert Finlayson, and throughout their lives they kept in touch with each other from time to time. On one occasion he met Colonel Finlayson, who was second-in-command during the siege of Kimberley, while he was on his way to the relief of Mafeking.

On leaving John Watson's James Donaldson set to work at once. After a brief experience with an artist colourman in Hanover Street, and being later the youngest commercial traveller in Scotland —when he narrowly escaped being in the train involved in the Tay Bridge disaster—he heard that recruits were required for the Cape Mounted Rifles, and he decided to join that body. He was then 18 years of age. Passed as physically fit, he sailed on the S.S. *Angus*, which took twenty-one days to reach the Cape. Although Donaldson had a happy time with the C.M.R., he saw no chance of advancement, so he quitted. He was ready for any adventure. While trekking over the wide tracts of sparsely inhabited country, he experienced the rough as well as the smooth in many of the jobs which he took in hand until he settled down into his proper niche in life.

He took note of everything around him. For instance he observed one peculiarity of the Transvaal Government. It was at that time in a very impecunious state, and the Judges nearly always fined the accused without the option of imprisonment. Fines meant money being paid into the Treasury, while imprisonment was the reverse ! He watched a kaffir smith making blades for assegias with primitive tools, and noticed that the leg ornaments which the native warriors wore were the tails which they had cut off oxen. One night he heard a curious scratching sound under his bed, and on getting up to see what it was, he discovered an old box lying under

it, in which were some crocodile eggs. A young crocodile, breaking out of its shell, had made the sound he had heard !

He met a very likeable man, named Julius Furley, whose main business was with the natives travelling to and from the Transvaal mines. A profitable side line was the ferrying of the natives across a river near his store. Natives going inland were never charged more than 6d. a head for ferrying, but on their homeward trip his charge was never less than 1s., and if the river was higher than usual, then he raised the passage money accordingly. The drift was the favourite hunting ground of a large crocodile, whose attacks on the natives fording the river were well known, and the higher the river ran, the better the crocodile's chances, hence the higher price for ferrying. At long last a Transvaal policeman, named Jourdaan, shot the crocodile. Old Furley was greatly upset. He said to Jourdaan, " I thought you were a friend of mine. Yours was a most unfriendly action."

One day in Lourenco Marques in Portugese territory, he was astonished to see a fellow Scot, Bob Mcnab, with a bodyguard of Swazis, all armed with rifles, parading up and down the principal street, he himself unarmed, apparently defying the authorities. It appears that they wanted to arrest him for the alleged killing of a native and theft of cattle from a Boer. After his demonstration, this tough character and his warriors went to a store and got hopelessly drunk. The authorities then got their man.

During an epidemic at Lourenco Marques the mortality was unprecedented. The bodies of paupers were taken nude in a coffin with a hinged bottom, to a shallow grave, the bottom opened, the body fell into the grave and the coffin was available for further use. In one case the jolting brought the supposed corpse to life again, and the man climbed out of the grave. Sometimes yarns are amplified, and in this case it was that on emerging from the grave the man had been arrested for exposing himself indecently !

Such yarns whet the appetite for more, but we must call a stop. We now come to the stage when Mr Donalsdon and his partner (whose trousers he won at their first meeting—that yarn will, however, have to stand over) set up large stores at Johannesburg as well as at Lourenco Marques on the coast. As importers they were the first in the country to handle a consignment of tea from China and of flour from Australia. Their enterprise brought them well-deserved success and an influential standing in the community, their friends including many pioneers now leaders of the Colony.

In the year 1895 the " Uitlanders " objected to paying all the taxes without any representation as to how the money was spent. Mr Donaldson writes, " I was heart and soul with the movement for better political conditions." The Reformers decided after trying persuasion and bribery without result to better the political status by a show of force, and in concert with Cecil Rhodes, to get a supply of

rifles and foodstuff into the Rand. Here it was that Mr Donaldson proved his usefulness, for he erected four large buildings, and stored them up to the roof with all kinds of food and, ostensively, with large drums of oil, in which were hidden rifles and ammunition.

He writes, " The history of the Jameson Raid is well known, but from my knowledge I can say definitely that Jameson let us down in Johannesburg. He was not meant by our leaders to cross the border. Our revolt was to be our affair. It was planned to take the Government Arsenal in Pretoria by a surprise attack, simultaneously with Johannesburg rising and presenting an ultimatum to the President." Two Reformers were actually sent to stop Jameson and reached him in time. " But Jameson, who had begun the first Matabele War without authority and carried it to a successful conclusion, had a swollen head and thought he was invincible " not realising that " in the Boer method of fighting, they offer no target to their enemy while the Matabele exposed themselves " recklessly to his maxim guns. His raid was a farce, and the leaders of the Reform Committee were imprisoned. In the end they were each fined £2,000 on a promise not to take any part in politics for three years.

On his release Mr Donaldson and his partner picked up again the threads of their business. One day they were given a demonstration of a new explosive by a chemist who had patented the rights. The idea was that a profitable business might be made of supplying the explosive to the mines of the Witwatersrand, who were paying extortionate prices under a Kruger concession. The test went well but when Mr Donaldson tried it himself, he suffered injuries to both eyes, the right eye being incised.

About the year 1896 the plague of rinderpest swept all Africa south of the Equator. This disease caused the deaths of more than half of the cattle in the country and game was decimated as well. This affected the natural food of the lions so much that they turned man-eaters. Not only were a large number of the natives made victims, but whites as well. One of Mr Donaldson's own friends was surprised by a lion and killed and eaten. The same fate befell another man who was dragged by the lion out of a stationary railway carriage.

To meet the scarcity of cattle, Mr Donaldson's firm joined in with an Argentine cattle shipper to send a trial cargo of steers and sheep. As a private venture, some thirty thoroughbred horses were also shipped aboard. It happened that Mr Donaldson and his partner Mr Sievwright rather fancied two or three of the horses, and they set up a racing stable. At their first meeting at the Johannesburg Turf Club, they won the Trial Handicap. In the year 1897-8 they were successful in five races out of eight starts, and when the Boer War began and automatically closed down all racing, they had the strongest racing stable in the country.

D. M. THOMSON.

To be continued.

Club Talk

Levites are asked to note that the Secretary and Editor's address is now " Stranraer," Elm Avenue, Lenzie, Dumbartonshire.

Shortly after the issue of the last *Levite* the award of the Distinguished Service Order to Wing-Commander Alex. F. Hamilton (1929) was announced. Alex. Hamilton had previously received the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross, for the magnificent example he had set by his determination and devotion to duty.

The award of the Distinguished Service Order has also been awarded to Acting Wing-Commander J. B. Grant, already a holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

To both these Levites the Club offers its warmest congratulations.

Levites will be glad to hear that Jock and Martin Aitken are both now home safely after being prisoners of war. Martin was taken prisoner at St. Valery in 1940 and his brother fell into enemy hands with the fall of Singapore in 1941.

Doctor Anthony Vost (1889) has now earned a well-deserved rest after close on 50 years' service. We wish him well in his retirement.

Rev. D. G. Hamilton (1886) who retired last autumn from the charge of Kelso Old Parish Church, has been succeeded by the Rev. R. Hamilton of Gatehouse-of-Fleet.

A recent visitor to the Scottish Command Headquarters housed in the School at Belford Road was Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

In London in February 1945, with Dr. Arundell Esdaile of the British Museum in the Chair, J. A. Chapman (1890) lectured to the English Association on the poetry of Hopkins ; a report of the proceedings appeared in *English*, Vol. 5, No. 29, 1945.

The following advertisement appeared in the *Scotsman*, *Glasgow Herald*, and *Dundee Courier* in July 1945.

JOHN WATSON'S SCHOOL.

This School, evacuated to " Marchmont," Berwickshire, maintains, and educates, as Foundationers, fatherless children insufficiently provided for, of Professional, Service or Business men and others. Applicants must be recommended by a Commissioner of the Society of W.S., be over 8 and under 11 years on 1st September, 1945, and pass examinations. Apply by 30th September to the Treasurer, 16 Walker Street, Edinburgh, who has a list of Commissioners.

Levites would do well to take advantage of the invitations extended in School Notes to visit Marchmont before the School leaves there in July. We venture to say that no School can have been evacuated to a more lovely residence. Marchmont once visited will not readily be forgotten. The train journey which takes about an hour and a half, carries one through some of the grand Border country which makes the journey all the more worth while.

W. L. Orr (1929) in the Fleet Air Arm, for a while served on the escort carrier H.M.S. *Nirvana* engaged in convoying ships on the hazardous route to the North Russian ports. H.M.S. *Nirvana* was twice singled out in Admiralty communiques for her good work.

LIEUT. S. SCROGGIE.

Former Pupils, young or old, will, we are sure, be sorry to learn that Sydney Scroggie (1935) received very severe wounds whilst serving in Italy almost at the end of the European war. On the 17th of April, 1945, he was detailed to carry out a patrol in an area where mines were heavily sown. Despite every precaution a mine exploded and as a result he suffered injuries to both eyes and subsequenty had to have one eye and the lower portion of his left leg removed. To-day he is quite blind and whether in the future an operation may enable partial sight to be restored is by no means sure.

Since returning to this country Sydney has been in the care of St. Dunstan's, firstly at Stoke Manderville, Bucks., and lastly at Church Stretton, Salop. With the training he has received he has now become remarkably proficient in Braille and typewriting. In October he is hoping to start reading Medieval History at New College, Oxford. In spirit it is hard to believe he has suffered such a handicap, for despite this cruel blow he is as cheerful as many and moreso than most.

After leaving John Watson's he went on to Harris Academy, Dundee, and on gaining the leaving Certificate he joined the journalistic staff of *Dundee Courier and Advertiser*. In 1940 he volunteered for the Army and some six months later was Commissioned and posted to the 7th Batt. Cameronians. Three years of mountain warfare training followed, which well suited one whose pleasures had, in peace time, taken in hill climbing. Later he transferred to the Lovat Scouts and early in 1945 his unit went to British Columbia to practice skiing in the Rocky Mountains. On the conclusion of this very arduous yet exhilirating training he returned to this country and thence moved out to Italy—a move that was to have such unfortunate results.

George White (1925) now demobbed from the R.A.F. had in the course of his travel abroad an interesting journey down the Euphrates from Baghdad to Bashrah. Despite this trip he says the country gives a good explanation as to why Sinbad the Sailor took to sea on his travels. For the last few years George White's travels have

rivalled those of Sinbad and have included spells in a small rocky island in the Persian Gulf, a return to Baghdad to hospital, home to Britain, via India and South Africa, and home postings to Invergordon and Inniskillen.

Ian White, George White's elder brother, is now demobilised from the Fleet Air Arm after nearly 4 years' service with the Forces. Prior to joining the Fleet Air Arm he served with the R.A.F., During the air attacks on Clydeside some years ago, he was unfortunate to have his house at Bowling destroyed.

David Bisset (1936) is now County Organiser, under the North of Scotland College of Agriculture, to the Isle of Skye and also Executive Officer to the Skye Agricultural Committee. After leaving John Watson's he continued his education at Robt. Gordon's College, Aberdeen until 1939, when he commenced studying at Aberdeen University in the Science of Agriculture. He graduated B.Sc. in 1943 and was appointed Labour Officer to the Ross and Cromarty Agricultural Executive Committee, a position which he held until receiving his present appointment a year ago.

Mrs McLaren (Mairi McRury) and her family have now returned to Edinburgh from Australia where they were evacuated from Hong Kong.

In a letter to the Secretary Mrs Royle Snow (Barbara Finlayson) in Toronto, says, that along with her husband and two of her four children, she hopes to visit Scotland and John Watson's next year.

J. T. Campbell (1905) and D. McLure (1941) in Australia and India, respectively, send their regards and best wishes to their John Watson's friends.

Margaret Nish, after for a time assisting in the catering at Boys, School in Suffolk, now holds a similar position at Ackworth School, near Pontefract, Yorks., where there are 400 scholars.

Donald Lean (1944) left School last Christmas and has now commenced studying at the Aeronautical Technical School of Miles Aircraft Ltd., Reading, Berks.

R. Hunter Murray (1916) was recently elected a Vice-President of Kelso Cricket Club.

The paths of Levites in the Services have continued to cross. Jack Scroggie (1936) writes to say that while he was in Bombay he by chance met Jas. Dempster (1930) at a Swimming Club. The latter was M.O. to an R.A.F. Unit stationed 14 miles outside Bombay. While in India he also met Ellis Pitcairn (1933). Both Jack Scroggie and Ellis Pitcairn have now been discharged from the Army on medical grounds and are back in their former occupations, the latter having returned to India.

Donald McLure (1941) also in India, met Ian Grant (1939) and Douglas McKerran (1941. All three were on Officers' training courses.

Thos. Hart (1939), shortly after graduating B.Sc. (1st Class) in Electrical Engineering at Edinburgh University, received a technical Commission in the R.N.V.R. His younger brother, J. G. M. Hart, who left John Watson's in 1943 and went on to George Watson's College, won the College March Hare race last year in the time of 5 minutes 57 seconds, only 9 seconds outside the record time. At the Annual Sports he was the winner of the 1 mile event and in an inter-school athletic match he won the 880 yards and the 120 yards hurdles events. On the rugby field, too, he showed his worth, playing for the College XV., and during the past season has been playing in the wing three-quarters and outside three-quarter position for the Watsonian 1st XV. He is now at Edinburgh University studying for the degrees of M.A., B.Comm.

Another Levite who showed good sporting ability at George Watson's College was I. J. Winter (1942) now in the Services. Last year he was Captain of the cricket 1st XI. and Vice-Captain of the College.

John Taubman (1938) has passed the subjects of Forensic Medicine and Public Health of the final professional examination at Edinburgh University. John Loudon, also studying medicine at Edinburgh University, is a regular member of the University Rugby 1st XV., whilst D. C. Drummond (1939) at the School of Medicine of the Royal Colleges, Edinburgh—better known as Surgeons' Hall——plays rugby for the College's 1st XV.

Lyndal Miles is President of the Women's Union at St. Andrews University where she has distinguished herself in her History studies and is sitting the Final Honours Examination this month.

Effie Gomez is completing her studies for the degree of M.A. at Glasgow University.

Older Levites will read with regret of the deaths of two Former Pupils who left John Watson's more than 60 years ago. They are Miss J. B. Colville and Mrs Mair (Dora List).

Miss Colville was a staunch supporter of the Club and a familiar figure at all business or social meetings. During the war of 1914-1918 Miss Colville did valuable and arduous work on the staff of the Censorship Bureau, and despite her advanced years she volunteered for and performed similar duties during the more recent hostilities. The measure of her love for John Watson's will be realised when we say that her Will disclosed the fact that in support of Colonel Donaldson's appeal on behalf of the Foundationers' Fund she promised to bequeath the sum of £400. With her death that Fund is the richer but the Club much poorer by her passing.

Mrs Mair, whose brother, now deceased, and sister (Mrs McGuffie—U.S.A.) were also with her at John Watson's, had for many years been resident in South Africa. Choosing nursing as a career she gave many years of her life in the service of the sick and wounded. Her early nursing training she received in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and she rose to become the Matron of the Tiberias Hospital. She answered the call of two wars, being a hospital sister in the Boer War of 1899-1901 and the Great War of 1914-1918.

Marriages :

At Johannesburg, in May, 1944, Dorothy Addison to S. Levett, South Africa.

At Glasgow, in March, 1945, Jessie Abbott to Frederick Walker, Newcastle.

At London, in March, 1946, Kathleen Wylie to Andrew Forsyth Lunn, Edinburgh.

At Glasgow, in April, 1945, Cecilia White to George Senderacki, Bialystok, Poland.

Births :

At Edinburgh, in May, 1945, to Mr and Mrs W. A. Peter Foote (Dorothea Ogilvie), a daughter.

At Iringa, Tanganyika Territory, in June, 1945, to Mr and Mrs R. G. Scott, a daughter.

At Edinburgh, in July, 1945, to Mr and Mrs Murdoch Macrae (Jenny Wilson), a son.

At Folkestone, in February, 1946, to Mr and Mrs G. T. Gillespie, a son.

At Edinburgh, in March, 1946, to Mr and Mrs R. A. Mackay, a daughter.

At Chatton, in September, 1945, to Mr and Mrs Stanislaw Lipnicki (Mary Nesbit), a son.

Choosing a Career

No. 1.

MEDICINE.

By Prof. Charles McNeil, M.D., F.A.C.P.

In the last year at John Watson's we become Levites ; and from that moment we begin to look forward and dream about the path of life that we shall follow—business ; banking ; accounting ; teaching ; the Law ; the Church ; literature ; journalism ; military service ; arts ; science ; medicine. The list is not complete, but it is long enough ; and in this article, I am going to write about medicine, telling you a little about the kind of work a Doctor does, and about the training that is needed before medical work is taken up.

The choice of a medical career is made in various ways ; by the example of a friend or relative who is a Doctor, by the advice of friends and seniors, or by our interest and admiration for the work of a Doctor. The last is the best reason for choosing medicine : it is a call or vocation ; and if you have within you that feeling of vocation, this inner call will carry you through the difficulties of training and will give you throughout your medical career—interest, satisfaction and happiness.

The great majority of the medical profession are family Doctors : visiting men, women and children at home ; advising them about health and life ; taking control of them in illness, first discovering the kind of illness, then applying remedies. Medical knowledge is steadily advancing ; and, in the last fifty years, the advance has been more rapid, so that to-day the family Doctor is powerfully armed with knowledge, and has great power in the control, prevention and cure of disease.

But the sphere of medicine is very wide and includes other careers than that of the family Doctor. There are the specialists, the operating surgeon, the hospital physician ; those who deal with special parts of the body such as the eye, the ear, nose and throat, the skin, and many others. Most of these specialists, who acquire great knowledge of their more limited field of work and high skill in its practice, are also teachers handing on to others the knowledge and skill they have acquired. There are also Doctors who do not practice the healing art, but devote their lives to study and teaching of what are called the basal sciences of medicine—the structure of the body (anatomy) ; the working of the body (physiology) ; and the action of drugs (pharmacology). So that the Levite, who feels the attraction of medicine, will have a wide choice before him when he has completed his training.

Something may now be said about the training for the degree or diploma which is required by Law before anyone is allowed to practise medicine in this country. The course of training takes five busy years of study and examination, and the examination and class fees—with the expenses of living away from home—will cost in all from £400 to £450. There are a number of bursaries and scholarships open to competition which can reduce considerably the expenses of medical education ; and financial assistance is also given by the Carnegie Trust. The first subjects of study are botany, zoology, chemistry and physics. The student is next taught about anatomy, physiology and pathology. Lastly the clinical subjects are studied—medicine, surgery and midwifery ; and, besides these, some special subjects which need not be mentioned here. This may seem an alarming and difficult course of study : but if the medical student comes well prepared from school and works steadily, the interest of these great subjects and the call of his career will carry him through to the goal of his degree.

Before the medical student can enter a Medical School or University in Scotland, he must have obtained Higher Leaving Certificates in a group of subjects, and must also pass what is called a Pre-Registration Examination in chemistry and physics. The details of this preliminary examination need not be now entered into. When the Levite has passed from John Watson's into a secondary school and has made the decision of a medical career, there will be time to prepare for the examinations preliminary to entering the University.

But the Levite, looking ahead at life and feeling drawn to the work of a Doctor, ought not at this stage to puzzle about regulations nor be frightened by the thought of new and difficult subjects and of years of examinations. The years of training are short compared with the life-time of a Doctor's work. The work is hard ; and the responsibility of dealing with matters of life and death is heavy and anxious. On the other hand the work of a Doctor is never dull or monotonous ; it is always interesting and often thrilling because it deals with life itself. It interests the mind because every case of illness is a new problem to solve ; and it gives peculiar satisfaction and happiness because the Doctor's work is to turn illness into health, and to make and keep life secure from danger.

School Memories

Part I.

GEORGE ROWE.

When my brother, Herbert Montague Chapman died, six years after leaving John Watson's, George Rowe, the Headmaster, wrote to me to condole, and wrote as one who remembered Herbert vividly. I thought that worth remembering about our Headmaster. It wasn't as if my brother had been anything of a scholar ; one good at lessons. What no doubt had made Mr Rowe take more notice of Herbert and myself than he would otherwise have done, was his having known our father as a fellow-Englishman and a fellow-Anglican ; so much so that often, if something in the lesson of the moment reminded him of a matter pertaining to Anglicanism, as the Church of England catechism, he would turn aside to make sure that I hadn't forgotten what I had been taught at home, as, in that predominantly Presbyterian school, I was more than likely to have done.

The moment of our association with Mr Rowe that I have oftenest recalled is how he laughed and laughed, as if he would never stop, when a certain girl, put up to parse " heaves " in the line, " Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap," concluded

with : " a transitive verb, having for its object " turf." What made it more amusing was that her voice was slow and solemn. She, one gathered, was rather a favourite of the Headmaster, for all she was much of a dunce : he called her " canary " from her habit of holding her head a little to one side.

It was Mr Rowe's practice to take the four or five boys who were to sit for some local examination in a cab to the University, and on the way to give them some last words of advice. The next day they, given a whole holiday, would present themselves, in their best clothes, for what might be left of their pocket money. (I had a half-crown, which I spent in the Exhibition of that year ! It was characteristic of Herbert that, his turn come, he had no money left, and had to write to me at home for a half-crown !). Two or three boys of my year, having white handkerchiefs brought from home, were " wearing " them with the tips sticking out of their pockets. Mr Rowe, who thought it a childish habit (but it isn't, you know), chaffed them about it, good-humouredly. Once, one of the Saturdays, when Mr Rowe, at his desk, called my name, instead of for twopence as usual I boldly asked for sixpence. Mr Rowe looked at me doubtfully for a second, then said, as he handed me the money : " Well, John, I think I can trust you not to buy fine linen or horses ! "

A story he told was how, after the dismissal of a class that had been studying the poem in which the line occurs : " Iser, rolling rapidly," a boy was heard falling downstairs. The Master, fearing he might have hurt himself, came to the stair-top and said : " Who was that ? " when the youngster replied : " I, Sir, rolling rapidly ! "

The only shock I experienced in the School was given me by Mr Rowe. Some twenty or more of the small boys had been caught in a misdemeanour. How grave a one the Headmaster thought it I knew from his calling me into his room, and speaking to me confidentially about it. He was to cane the whole sorry lot of them one evening in the classroom of the First Section. Entering that room, the cane in his hand, he presented to me who happened to be alone in it, and close to the door, so white and pain-drawn a face that I have never forgotten that look.

Many must recall how invariably Mr Rowe, reading Caesar or Ovid or Nepos with us, if the boy whose turn it was to construe stuck, said : " First look for the subject and then for the principal verb." He had that habit of the schoolmaster of upbraiding a class for its ignorance and slowness to learn ; so that one was often sorely tempted to say : ' What need would there be for you, if we already knew as much as you, and could teach ourselves still more ? " That would have been quite sensible. One of us, but I have forgotten whom, was by nature made to plunge so without thinking into a Latin sentence that Mr Rowe knew him better by the end as " the bull in the china shop " than by his own name.

He was a very good man ; one of the uprightest of my long experience. I am glad to add this page of recollection of him to the many others that have been published. As I have come last, when much has already been told of Mr Rowe, I have had rather to gather up crumbs.

J. A. CHAPMAN.

THE SCHOOL PRIZE-GIVING, JULY 1945.

The last summer Vacation Day fell on the 28th of July, and to those who journeyed to Marchmont on that day, it seemed that never had the countryside looked more lovely and never did the surroundings in and around Marchmont seem to utter a more hearty welcome.

Inside the House the Music Room, with its oak-panelled walls, its richly ornamented ceiling and its magnificient pipe organ, was filled to overflowing when the platform party, amongst which were the Deputy-Keeper, The Countess of Haddington and Capt. and Mrs J. H. F. McEwan, took their places.

After an opening prayer, offered by the Rev. R. B. McCallum, the late Mr Grimwood's successor to the charge of Polwarth Kirk, we listened to a fine rendering by the pupils of "The Lord's my Shepherd," sung in descant to Brother James' Air. This was followed by the Headmaster's Report on the year's work. Following the presentation of prizes the pupils brought the musical side of the programme to a close with the singing of "The Workers Hymn," written specially for them by Flying-Officer Albert Howe, a Professor at the Guildhall School of Music, serving with the R.A.F. at the nearby Charterhall Aerodrome.

The Countess of Haddington—herself a keen youth worker—before presenting the prizes, gave some valuable advice to her young listeners and in making the presentations displayed a genuine interest in her duties. Special mention must be made of the successes gained by Miss Elizabeth Arnott, who besides winning the Dux Girl and Dux of the School Medal also won each of the three other prizes given by the Club and open to her, and in addition also won no fewer than four other prizes. A bright future for her would seem to be assured.

The following is the complete list of awards :—

MEDALS AND PRIZES PRESENTED BY THE JOHN WATSON'S CLUB.

Medal for Dux Girl and Dux of the School—Elizabeth Arnott.
Medal for Dux Boy—Robert Botcherby.
Langhorne Memorial Medal for Latin—Elizabeth Arnott.
Rowe Memorial Medal for Scripture—Elizabeth Arnott.
Ronaldson Writing Prize—Elizabeth Arnott.

Upper School Prizes :—

Mathematics—Elizabeth Arnott.
Science—Elizabeth Arnott.
French—Elizabeth Arnott.
History—John Reid.
Scripture III. S—Alison Murray.
II. S—Ronald Frew.
I. S—Elizabeth Hooper.
Gymnastics—Stephen Douglas.
Gardening—1. Alison Murray. 2. Stephen Douglas.
3. James Nesbit.
Art—Elizabeth McEwan.
Piano—Catherine Cran. Alison Murray.
Singing—Elizabeth McEwan, Ernest Paton.
Domestic Science—Elizabeth McEwan.
Needlework—Elizabeth McEwan.
Woodwork—Leonard Drever, Charles Maxwell.
Handwork—Murray Botcherby.
Margaret Gordon Prize—John Reid.

Lower School Prizes.

Nature Study—Beatrice Paxton.
Gymnastics—Leila Newlands.
Art—Sheena McKean.
Needlework—Rosemary Anderson.
Margaret Gordon Prize—Dorothy McEwan.

Class Prizes.

3 S. Elizabeth Arnott, Alison Murray.
2 S. Ronald Frew, Stewart Ross.
1 S. Kenneth Beveridge, William Scott.
5 P. Sheena McKean, Duncan Stewart.
4 P. Murray Botcherby, Grant Carson.
3 P. Leila Newlands, Eileen Simpson.

SPORTS PRIZES.

John Watson's Club Sports Championship Cup—Leonard Drever.
Marr and Kellie House Championship Cup—Ravelston.

Prizes for—

Boys' Open Events—1. Leonard Drever.
2. Gordon Minto.
Girls' Open Events—Catherine Cran.
Boys' under 13½ Events—1. Kenneth Beveridge.
2. Alexander Stevenson.
Girls' under 13½ Events—Sheena McKean.
Boys' under 11½ Events—David Whitty.
Girls' under 11½ Events—Elizabeth Burchell.

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL SPORTS, 1945.

LIST OF PRIZE-WINNERS

	Event.	Class.	First.	Second.	Third.	Time or Distance
1	Goal-kicking	B Open	L. Drever.	J. Baillie and M. Ross—Equal.		———
2	Hockey Dribbling	G Open	J. Cook and C. Cran—Equal		P. Jack	———
3	Cricket Ball	B Open	L. Drever	K. Beveridge	I. Minto	67 yards.
4	Senior Marathon	B Open	L. Drever	I. Minto	M. Ross	———
5	Senior Marathon	G Open	E. McKellar	J. Cook	P. Jack	———
6	Junior Marathon	B Open	M. Botcherby	A. Minto	T. Stoakes	———
7	Junior Marathon	G Open	S. McKean	R. Anderson	F. Ballantyne	———
8	1 Mile	B Open	L. Drever	I. Minto	J. Baillie	6 mns 18.25 secs.
9	880 Yards	B Open	L. Drever	I. Minto	J. Baillie	3 mins. 32 secs.
10	880 Yards	G Open	C. Cran	F. Ballantyne	J. Cook	3 mins. 10 secs.
11	440 Yards	B Open	L. Drever	I. Minto	T. Baillie	1 min. 18 secs.
12	300 Yards	G Over 13½ yrs.	C. Cran	J. Cook	P. Jack	33.5 secs.
13	220 Yards	B Over 13½ yrs.	L. Drever	I. Minto	E. D. Paton	34 secs.
14	150 Yards	G Over 13½ yrs.	C. Cran	J. Cook	P. Jack	———
15	100 Yards	B Over 13½ yrs.	L. Drever	I. Minto	E. D. Paton	11.5 secs.
16	90 Yards	G Over 13½ yrs.	C. Cran	J. Cook	P. Jack	10 secs.
17	Long Jump	B Over 13½ yrs.	I. Minto	L. Drever	M. Ross—Equal	14 ft. 10 ins.
18	Long Jump	G Over 13½ yrs.	C. Cran	J. Cook	E. Hooper	13 ft. 10 ins.
19	High Jump	B Over 13½ yrs.	L. Drever	E. D. Paton	———	4 ft. 3 in.
20	High Jump	G Over 13½ yrs.	J. Cook	C. Cran	A. Murray—Equal	3 ft. 7 ins.
21	220 Yards	B Over 11½ yrs.	K. Beveridge	A. Stevenson	D. N. Stewart	36 secs.
22	150 Yards	G Over 11½ yrs.	S. McKean	R. Anderson	E. McKellar	10.5 secs.
23	90 Yards	B Over 11½ yrs.	A. Stevenson	K. Beveridge—Equal	C. Maxwell	9.5 secs.
24	80 Yards	G Over 11½ yrs.	S. McKean	R. Petrie	R. Anderson	8.5 secs.
25	Long Jump	B Over 11½ yrs.	W. Scott	K. Beveridge	D. N. Stewart	12 ft. 9 ins.
26	Long Jump	G Over 11½ yrs.	D. McKissack	R. Petrie	E. McKellar	11 ft. 6 ins.
27	High Jump	B Over 11½ yrs.	K. Beveridge	A. Stevenson	W. Scott	4 ft. 1 in.
28	High Jump	G Over 11½ yrs.	D. McKissack,	R. Anderson, E. McKellar,	S. McKean	3 ft. 5 ins.
29	120 Yards	B Over 11½ yrs.	D. P. Whitty	M. Botcherby	I. Brown	———
30	120 Yards	G Over 11½ yrs.	E. Burchell	J. McCulloch	L. Newlands	17 secs.
31	80 Yards	B Over 11½ yrs.	D. P. Whitty	T. Stoakes	R. McCulloch	———
32	70 Yards	G Over 11½ yrs.	E. Burchell	J. McCulloch	L. Newlands	10.5 secs.
33	Long Jump	B Und. 11½ ys.	D. P. Whitty	T. Stoakes	R. McCulloch	12 ft. 1 in.
34	Long Jump	G Und. 11½ ys.	E. Simpson	J. McCulloch	E. Burchell	9 ft. 5 ins.
35	High Jump	B Und. 11½ ys.	D. P. Whitty	T. Stoakes	M. Botcherby	3 ft. 6 ins.
36	High Jump	G Und. 11½ ys.	E. Burchell	J. McCulloch	———	3 ft. 1 in.
37	Relay Race	Senior	Ravelston	Belford	Dean	———
38	Relay Race	Junior	Ravelston	Belford	Dean	———

SPORTS CHAMPIONS.

	Boys.	Girls.
Open—	1. L. Drever.	C. Cran.
	2. I. Minto	J. Cook.
Under 13½ years—	1. K. Beveridge.	S. McKean.
	2. A. Stevenson.	E. McKellar.
Under 11½ years—	1. D. Whitty,	E. Burchell.
	2. M. Botcherby.	E. Simpson.

School Notes

BOYS' PAGE.

The Summer Term of 1945 opened in expectation and suspense : war in Europe was ending. On VE Day a great bonfire was built on the Kennels Bank, but rain came and it could not be fired until the following Saturday. Two later Saturdays were also proclaimed Victory Holidays, and the School went, some on foot or cycle, some by train, to the river or sea. One brilliant evening in June a well-loaded coach left the square before the House for St. Boswell's Town Hall, where the Perth Repertory Theatre gave Hamlet, and at the end of the month an afternoon concert, with percussion band and puppet-show, was given in farewell to Professor Howe, whose R.A.F. service at Charterhall was ending. Meantime the Scouts and Guides had attended a Greenlaw Church Parade, both under the care of Miss Blair. After four years with the Lower School, she had transferred to the Science Department, until she left in the autumn for a post at Gresham House. Her successor is Mr P. J. Westby, who with Captain E. H. House and Mr J. de Linzen has now joined the staff : we wish them all a long and happy stay with us. During the summer a number of films were shown on Lady Haddington's projector, and it was appropriately Lady Haddington who distributed the prizes on Parents' Day. Lectures and talks had also been given by Mr C. G. Hawkins on Peace, Mr Winard on his Texas home, and Miss Atkinson with charming slides on Central Europe. The autumn and winter were marked by much activity, with the making of hand-looms by some of the woodwork classes, the Hallowe'en, Christmas and Burns' Night parties, the unusually ambitious Nativity Plays and two French " thrillers," and a fortnight's visit from Dr. A. L. F. Smith. At the Christmas party a sampler was presented to Jamie McEwan, to mark our pleasure at his coming of age : it had been made by the School and commemorated the School's stay at Marchmont.

Both peace and war have brought many changes to the School, but it has persisted and thriven nevertheless. Among the boys, rugger, soccer, cricket, a little tennis and an occasional game of hockey, the sports, shooting, swimming, boxing, rope-climbing, gardening, wood-cutting, rabbit-keeping, skating, sledging and " freedoms " have all had their place. Sundays have seemed strange with the afternoon services at Polwarth Church, but over all there has been the knowledge that this will be the last year for us at March-

mont. Never has its beauty seemed greater, with the splendid rooms and no less splendid trees, and never have we been more sharply aware of what we owe to our gracious host and hostess and their family than now that we are at last to leave them. Many Levites too must have the same feeling of affection and gratitude, and, like the girls, we hope they will be able to pay Marchmont a last visit before this long and happy interlude in the School's history has its close.

G. W. Rowe.

GIRLS' PAGE.

Once again the publication of *The Levite* forces us to review the past year, to think with regret of the faces of children and staff no longer with us, and with pleasure on those who have taken their places and become part of the School.

The Girls' Side of the House has seen a few changes during the year. Old Girls will be sorry to hear of Mrs Thom's illness last October, and her long convalescence, but we hope to have her back with us again for the summer term. Miss Letham, now Mrs Fleming, of Woodheads, has handed over the Domestic Science reins to Mrs Kerr. Mrs Britton whose teaching career was interrupted for her three years' work with "Radar," is carrying on Miss Mathers' good work in the Kindergarten and Library, and Miss Wall, a Graduate of Trinity, has taken over 5 Primary.

We are already in the middle of the School year, and everyone is working hard and playing hard—the degree of both varying a good deal as usual. But of the play Mrs Britton and Miss Wall are sharing the responsibility for the Girls' hockey, and hopes run high that for once, we shall have a winter term without one hockey match scratched because of weather. Matches were played last term against Hawick High School and Berwickshire High School, but matches at Kelso and Berwick have still to be played. School 1st XI. is younger and lighter than usual this season, but three hockey practices most weeks, has improved their technique and increased their enjoyment of the game.

Indoors, too, the Girls are playing hard, Miss Maclagan's Music Examination pupils particularly. And judging by the sounds that escape from the Music Room, there seems every likelihood of their usual hundred per cent. success.

School knitting and sewing have now reached the more pleasurable stage, and summer frocks are gradually being assembled, or a

cap comes to light, someone's task for a Freedom. Red Cross work no longer fills the little interstices of time, and now on occasion quiet little card games may be seen in progress in the schoolroom, or the not so quiet Newmarket, ten or twelve strong, and audience and supporters numbering as many more. And so we realise that life is different since VJ Day : that the war is drifting to the less remembered things, which forces us to a realisation that we are drawing to the end of our happy, seven years' sojourn at Marchmont. Since September, but more particularly since the first promise of spring, the School, from oldest to youngest, seems to be fully conscious of this drawing to a close of this phase of the School's history. We have had exceptionally fine weather for our last winter, most of our skating on Sisterpath Pond and sledging being crammed into one clear, frosty week. But the mild weather has almost hustled us through snowdrop time. Their being over so soon may have something to do with the feeling often noticeable in the School, not far from the surface, something that hitherto one has associated with Levites, a looking at the ordinary things, and doing the ordinary things in school life, like going up to the Moors, and realising that next year everything will be different and not knowing whether one is more happy and excited, or sad. And indeed, we are all in a sense, Levites this year, and like Levites, mixed with the regrets, is the thought of something quite new, an entirely different way of living, for because of the length of our visit to the Borders, no child who was at John Watson's in Edinburgh will return with the School in September—if one dare to name the month of our return ! So there is much talk among our country-brought-up-children—as they have all become in these years—as to what School is like in Edinburgh, and as there is little real knowledge, rumour is rife. " Will walks be in crocodiles ? " " How much land is there at John Watson's ? " As though we were not John Watson's now ! " What is the river in town like ? " " Will Tuesdays and Thursdays still be half-holidays ? " " What about Saturdays ? " And even, " What kind of Church bell will we have ? Will it be tinkly like the Polwarth one ? "and so on with this inexhaustible topic.

Meantime time is running away with us and there are many things to do and many to be seen before we leave the Borders. There may be a last minute rush at the end of the summer term, but it would seem that some attempt is being made to prevent it, for already the happy possessors of Freedoms are off on expeditions every Saturday, arriving back in time for bed.

And now, a gentle reminder to Old Boys and Girls who have not visited us of late, or not at all, and never seen our lovely wartime home, " Come and visit us some fine Saturday, when visiting the Old School still means a day in the country."

M. Lawson.

THE JOHN WATSON CLUB.
NEW MEMBERS.

1945 Botcherby, R. B., 8 Weston Terrace, W. Kilbride, Ayrshire.
1945 Drever, L. S., 19 Airlie Place, Dundee.
1945 Petrie, G. K., 30 Lauriston Farm Road, Edinburgh 4.
1945 Ross, M., 2 Bedford Terrace, Portobello, Edinburgh.
1941 Thomson, P. L. C., c/o Sands, Louvain, Kinross.
1937 Ure, John P., c/o 2 Crookston Avenue, Cardonald, Glasgow.
Arnott, Miss E., The Russels, Roman Road, Shrewsbury.
Cran, Miss C., 12 Willowbrae Avenue, Edinburgh.
Murray, Miss A., 1 St. Ninians Terrace, Edinburgh 10.
McKissack, Miss D., Elmwood House, Greenlaw.
Petrie, Miss R., 30 Lauriston Farm Road, Edinburgh 4.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

1886 Boyd, Prof. D. R., 17 Boscover Road North, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.
1929 Blyth, G. F., C/o Lloyds' Bank Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.
1936 Bisset, D. R., Executive Officer, Agricultural Executive Committee for Skye, Portree, Isle of Skye.
1886 Hamilton, Rev. D. G., M.A. Abbotsford Grove, Kelso.
1929 High, R. D., Horndean, Berwickshire.
1929 Murray, A. D., "Stranraer," Elm Avenue, Lenzie, Dumbartonshire.
1943 Murray, K. G., 1 St. Ninians Terrace, Edinburgh.
1936 Scroggie, J. C., 10 Wortley Place, Dundee.
White, I. F., 144 Calderwood Road, Burnside, Rutherglen.
Ashton, Mrs (Jean Whyte), 100 Golfdrums Street, Dunfermline.
Brown, Mrs Forsyth (Kate Bruce), Fleuch-larg, Gatehouse-of-Fleet.
Boyes, Mrs G. (Jessie Munro), 144 King's Park Drive, Glasgow, S.4.
Burness, Miss E., c/o Dr. Cochrane, 21 Cluny Gardens, Edinburgh 10.
Cameron, Miss Ena, 4 Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh.
Duce, Mrs E. (Eleanor Mitchell), 11 Chapelfield North, Norwich.
Foote, Mrs (Dorothea Ogilvie), Braeside, Carlops.
Herlihy, Mrs G. (Norma McPhail), 45 Aberdeen Park, Highbury, London, N.5.
Lockyer, Miss M., 10 Saxe-Coburg Place, Edinburgh.
Snow, Mrs Royle (Barbara Finlayson), 188 Glenview Avenue, Toronto.
Walker, Mrs J. (Jessie Abbott), 8 Thornton Avenue, Chiswick, London, W.4.

ADDRESSES WANTED.

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1934 Brander, G.—Glasgow.
1939 Drummond, H. M.—Aberdeen.
1931 Duffes, W. G.—Perth.
1933 Foggo, K. M.O.—Biggar.
Fortune, W.—Duns.
1893 Grant, H. K.—Llandudno.
1900 Graham, T.—Upton.
1932 Grant, J. B.—Paignton.
1938 Grant, A.—Paignton.
1939 Grant, I.—Paignton.
1929 Jackson, J. R.—London.
1921 Johnston, D. T.—Dollar.
1939 Moodie, A.—
1909 Muirhead, A. J.—Edinburgh.
1916 Mulligan, E. J. B.—Glasgow.
1932 Marr, J.—Gloucester.
1939 Mann, J.—Edinburgh.
1900 McEwan, H. C.—London.
1913 McKenzie, I. R.—
1933 Pitcairn, E.—Edinburgh.
1936 Reed, D.—Edinburgh.
1939 Richards, G.—Peebles.
1885 Riddell, H. S.—Natal.
1882 Sinclair, Dr.—Sussex.

Cumming, Miss Cynthia—Edinburgh.
Chrystal, Miss Irene—Edinburgh.
Gregor, Miss Molly—Edinburgh.
Grigor, Miss Mona—Edinburgh.
Drummond, Miss Kathleen—Edinburgh.
Hoby, Miss E.—London.
McKenzie, Miss M.—Liverpool.
Roddick, Mrs—
Martin, Miss Audrey—Lanark.
Mackie, Miss Cecilia—

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